

Special Thanks

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Old Bridge Historical Society

Committee to Honor America's Veterans Members & Volunteers

Tony Andujar	David Sheppard	Chuck Helmboldt
Joe Ausley	Ellen Sheppard	Ellie Helmboldt
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Joe Minucci	Carol Corbett	Ethel Oates
A. J. Oates	Juanita Coulson	Joann Papesca
Lynda Sanders	Loretta DeVita	
Mike Shea		

Committee Members Who Have Passed On

We Honor Their Service and Support

Dick Lehrer ☆ Hugh Munday ☆ Bob Hanania ☆
Karen Spinelli ☆ Gordon Coulson ☆
Jack Lenz ☆ Bob Jones ☆ Rick Papesca

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November 11, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Veterans Memorial
Sunset Beach Town Park



Brigadier General Edward P. Naessens, Jr, PhD, graduated from West Point in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science degree and a commission as a 2LT in the Infantry. He earned both a Master of Science in Physics and Doctorate of Philosophy in Nuclear Engineering and Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a Master's Degree in National Security Strategy from the Naval War College.

His early assignments included duties as a rifle platoon and scout platoon leader, company executive officer, and Aide de Camp with the 25th Infantry Division from 1982 to 1984. He served as a rifle company commander, battalion operations officer, and brigade assistant operations officer with the 9th Infantry Division from 1985 to 1989. Later he served

in battalion/brigade staff positions with the 10th Mountain Division from 1994 to 1996.

Operational deployments include serving as the task force operations officer with the Multinational Force & Observers mission in Sinai, Egypt, in 1988. He first deployed to Afghanistan 2002, and again in 2004 as the Chief, Military Academy Implementation Support Team, Office of the Military Cooperation-Afghanistan. In this position he began work with the Afghanistan leadership to build the National Military Academy of Afghanistan (NMAA) modeled after West Point. He served as the Deputy Brigade Commander of the 17th FA Brigade in Baghdad, Iraq in 2006. He returned as the Senior Academic Mentor to the NMAA from 2008 to 2009 and then as the Team Chief and Senior Advisor from 2010 to 2011 as part of the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTC-A) in Kabul, Afghanistan. In May 2015 he deployed to Afghanistan as the Chief of Staff of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Security Assistance and CSTC-A through May 2016.

At West Point, BG(Ret) Naessens has served as an instructor and Assistant Professor from 1991 to 1994 and as an Associate Professor from 1999 to 2009. He was selected as Professor of Nuclear Engineering in 2007. In 2009, he was selected as Professor USMA, and Head of the Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering until he retired from the US Army in 2019.

BG(Ret) Naessens' awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Medal, and five Meritorious Service Medal along with additional commendation, campaign and service medals.

The Naessens live in Compass Pointe, Leland NC. BG(Ret) Naessens is currently serving as a physics and engineering instructor at Cape Fear Academy and an Adjunct Professor at Brunswick Community College.

BG(Ret) Naessens is married to Marie Errico and has three children Shawn Marie (USMA '05), Edward, and Allison (ECU ROTC '12) and five—hooah—grandchildren.

Program

Master of Ceremonies	Karen Joseph
Welcome	Mayor Shannon Phillips
Honor Guard	Police Officers Bill Arp and Anthony Covelli; Firefighter Larry Cramer and Lieutenant Shane Graham
Pledge of Allegiance	Charles Nern
National Anthem	Sea Trail Song Birds led by Michael Rogers
Invocation.....	Chaplain Jason Benson Soldier Bay Baptist Church & Sunset Beach Police Chaplain
Remarks	Karen Joseph
Introduction of General Naessens.....	Gere Andujar
Keynote Address.....	Brigadier General Edward P. Naessens, Jr. US Army Retired
Closing.....	Lou DeVita
Laying of wreath by WWII Veterans	Leo Jarmusz and Harold Riebesehl; Korean War Veterans: William Hoyle and Guy Lachapelle; Viet Nam Veteran: Joe Ausley.
Taps	David Nelms

Committee to Honor America's Veterans Board of Directors

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